

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An ink-jet recording medium having a support and an ink accepting layer prepared by coating a silica dispersion containing silica particles, wherein a ratio of a free silanol group of the silica particles is from 1.0 to 4.5,
wherein

Free silanol group ratio =

Absorbance at 3760 cm^{-1} /Absorbance at 1870 cm^{-1} .

Claim 2 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 1, wherein the silica particles are produced by a gas phase method.

Claim 3 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 2, wherein the silica particles have a moisture content of from 1.5 to 5.0%.

Claim 4 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 1, wherein the silica particles are obtained by steam blowing to the

silica produced by the gas phase method having a moisture content of from 0.1 to 1.0%.

Claim 5 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 1, wherein the silica particles have an average primary particle diameter of from 3 to 100 nm.

Claim 6 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 1, wherein the silica dispersion further comprises a water-soluble polymer.

Claim 7 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 6, wherein the water-soluble polymer is polyvinyl alcohol.

Claim 8 (original)

The ink-jet recording medium of claim 1, wherein the ink accepting layer comprises further a cationic polymer.

Claims 9-16 (withdrawn)